



METROPOLITAN  
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Agenda Item No. 2a

*Scott Haggerty, Chair*  
Alameda County

*Adrienne J. Tissier, Vice Chair*  
San Mateo County

*Tom Azumbrado*  
U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development

*Tom Bates*  
Cities of Alameda County

*Dean J. Chu*  
Cities of Santa Clara County

*Dave Cortese*  
Association of Bay Area Governments

*Chris Daly*  
City and County of San Francisco

*Bill Dodd*  
Napa County and Cities

*Dorene M. Giacomini*  
U.S. Department of Transportation

*Federal D. Glover*  
Contra Costa County

*Anne W. Halsted*  
San Francisco Bay Conservation  
and Development Commission

*Steve Kinsey*  
Marin County and Cities

*Sue Lempert*  
Cities of San Mateo County

*Jake Mackenzie*  
Sonoma County and Cities

*Jon Rubin*  
San Francisco Mayor's Appointee

*Bijan Sartipi*  
State Business, Transportation  
and Housing Agency

*James P. Spering*  
Solano County and Cities

*Amy Rein Worth*  
Cities of Contra Costa County

*Ken Yeager*  
Santa Clara County

*Steve Heminger*  
Executive Director

*Ann Flemer*  
Deputy Executive Director, Policy

*Andrew B. Fremier*  
Deputy Executive Director, Operations

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2009

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Chair Rein Worth convened the meeting at 10:50 a.m. In addition to Chair Rein Worth, the following Committee members were in attendance: Vice-Chair Chu, Commissioners Azumbrado, Haggerty, Halsted, Spering, Tissier and Yeager. Also in attendance were Commissioners Bates, Cortese and Daly.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Committee members unanimously approved the following items on the consent calendar:

- Minutes of July 10, 2009 Committee Meeting;
- Contract – Data and Video Exchange for the Center to Center Project: Telvent Farradyne (\$310,000);
- TransLink® Program:
  - (i) Contract Change Order – Two Million Limited Use smart cards: Cubic Transportation System (\$900,000)
  - (ii) Agreement – TransLink® Card Issuance Pilot;
- Fourth Quarter SAFE Financial Statements;
- Contract - Embarcadero Kiosk Operations: Nematode Holdings, LLC (\$795,300);
- MTC SAFE Resolution No. 54 – SR-12 Corridor Study.

MTC SAFE Resolution No. 53, Revised – MTC SAFE FY 2009-10 Budget Amendment

Mr. Jaime Maldonado, MTC staff person, reported that the budget amendment includes a revenue adjustment for the Freeway Service Patrol program, a reduction from \$6.75M to \$6M for 2009-10. The second adjustment is a proposed addition of a new capital line item for call boxes in upcoming tunnel projects. Overall, the SAFE reserve is expected to have a balance of approximately \$10M at the end of the current fiscal year.

Commissioner Chu moved to refer MTC SAFE Resolution No. 53, Revised to the SAFE Authority for approval. Commissioner Cortese seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TransLink® Fare Media Transition Plans

Ms. Melanie Crotty, Director of Traveler Coordination and Information, reported that in order for TransLink® to be successful, transit agencies will have to eliminate their paper fare products and transition them to TransLink®. In June 2009, MTC requested transition plans from transit agencies to describe how that will happen. Golden Gate and AC Transit were asked to transition from paper products to TransLink® cards within one year; Muni, BART, and CalTrain were asked to transition within two years. She noted that as part of the contract assignment, MTC agreed to pay Cubic approximately \$100,000 per month until the system reaches 20 million transactions per month, which adds to the importance of fare media transition to TransLink®. Ms. Crotty presented an overview of how the market penetration might occur. [Note: Staff has since heard from the transit agencies that they are concerned about MTC using models with out of date numbers.] Ms. Crotty noted that the next steps, after feedback from Committee members, are to work with the transit agencies to revise their transition plans. Once agreeable target dates have been reached, staff will come back to this Committee for inclusion in the SB1474 Regional Transit Coordination Plan.

Chairperson Rein Worth introduced Ms. Dorthey Dugger of BART, Ms. Kathleen Kelly of AC Transit, Ms. Rita Haskins of CalTrain, Mr. Joe Wire of Golden Gate Transit, and Mr. Carter Rohann of SF Muni and asked each agency to identify activities it will pursue immediately to facilitate fare media transition. Each of the respective representatives gave brief presentations to the Committee regarding his or her agency's transition plans.

Commissioner Bates commented on how well London's Oyster Program worked and noted the many challenges facing the transition. He asked if staff could provide to Committee members a list of the problems from the various agencies, and how we plan to overcome them. Ms. Crotty responded that staff will make recommendations concerning priorities. Commissioner Bates then requested a white paper concerning issues and possible solutions. He also asked if his Senior Citizen TransLink® card works on AC Transit.

Commissioner Azumbrado asked if TransLink® is a flawed product, and commented MTC should provide not only sticks, but carrots. What resources are transit agencies using to encourage people to get on board? Mrs. Crotty responded that there may be ways to encourage transit operators to be proactive and consider incentives, in addition to elimination of paper products. Commissioner Azumbrado asked since Muni is the largest transit agency providing TransLink® service, would most of the funding go to Muni, and should MTC put emphasis on Muni to try to encourage TransLink® use? Ms. Crotty responded that MTC is taking the lead in working with Muni on their fare gate replacement. She noted that there is a concern that if the fare gates are not upgraded, Muni will not be able to handle the capacity of all of the Fast Pass customers moving over to TransLink®.

Commissioner Lempert noted that the challenge is working with so many different transit agencies. She noted that since this is a regional program, it is important that all of the transit operators have TransLink<sup>®</sup>, and not focus on just one agency in order to reach a goal. Ms. Lempert also suggested providing technical assistance for the transit agencies.

Ms. Ann Flemer, Executive Deputy Director of Policy, commented that the presentation indicates the complexity of the system and the nature of how fares are collected today. Ms. Flemer suggested that staff prepare a white paper for Committee members, listing things that need to be done, and the white paper should be scheduled when there is adequate time for members to review the issues and possible solutions.

Commissioner Haggerty suggested discussing this topic at the Commission workshop on transit sustainability.

#### Bay Area Ramp Metering Status Report

Mr. Albert Yee, Director of Highway and Arterial Operations, reported that at the time of the adaption of the Regional Transportation Plan (T-2030), only 18% of on-ramps on Bay Area freeway systems were metered. Since then, there are now 24% of on-ramps metered. Staff has implemented metering on some of the most congested corridors of the region. Ms. Joanna Fox, MTC staff person, gave a brief description of all of the newly activated ramp meters on Bay Area freeways. She noted that after ramp metering activation, travel times were reduced by 33%, and freeway throughput was increased by 16%. Ms. Fox stated that during the next months, meters on 22 on ramps will be activated during the evening peak period on southbound US 101. By the end of the year, staff plans to activate an additional 6 meters along southbound I-880 between Milpitas and US 101 in San Jose. Also in spring of 2010, construction will begin on 3 new ramp metering projects, including two corridors in San Jose, and 1 corridor in Daly City. These projects will add another 24 meters to the system. Once all of the planned meters are added and activated, it will bring the total active ramp meters to 30% in the Bay Area, compared to 18%.

Commissioner Haggerty asked if staff could look into setting up a toll enforcement agency to deal with ramp meter violators. Commissioner Spering responded that CHP does not have the resources to provide enforcement for ramp meter violators. However, Commissioner Spering suggested that staff provide funding to CHP in order to enforce ramp meter violators.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT/OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Andrew Casteel of BABC, and Ms. Carli Pain of TransForm expressed their concerns regarding ramp metering.

There being no further business, Chairperson Rein Worth adjourned the meeting at 12:05 a.m.

